

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 FBIE-00 SNM-02

DEAE-00 TRSE-00 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 L-03 ARAE-00 INRE-00 /069 W

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O R 231355Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3069

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 6600

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO, SP

SUBJ: POSSIBLE THREAT TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ' LIFE

REF: MADRID 6594

1. WE SENT THE GUTS OF BOTERO'S INFORMATION BY A FLASH MESSAGE IN CASE THERE IS ANYTHING TO THE STORY. BOTERO, HIMSELF, BELIEVES THE STORY CANNOT BE IGNORED, BUT IS OF TWO MINDS: (A) GARCIA WAS CONCOCTING A STORY IN ORDER TO GET A JOB, WHICH HE ASKED FOR; (B) GARCIA'S STORY IS TRUE, TO SOME EXTENT AT LEAST, AND THERE MAY BE A PLOT TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT LOPEZ.

2. BOTERO SAID IT WAS HARD TO ASSESS GARCIA'S RELIABILITY; HE SEEMED TO BE A TYPICAL "ADVENTURER", GLIB AND BOASTING OF MAKING A LIVING OFF HIS GIRL FRIEMDS. BOTERO SAID HE DID CATCH HIM IN AT LEAST ONE LIE. BOTERO SAID THAT WHEN GARCIA HAD TALKED TO HIM BY PHONE FROM BARCELONA, GARCIA HAD CLAIMED TO HAVE AT ONE TIME WORKED WITH THE FBI AND TO EVEN HAVE A SORT OF CODE NUMBER WHICH WAS 347. HOWEVER, WHEN GARCIA SAW BOTERO IN HIS OFFICE AND BOTERO

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QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT THIS, GARCIA COMPLETELY CHANGED HIS

STORY AND SAID HE HAD NEVER HAD ANY CONNECTIONS OR CONTACTS WITH THE FBI BUT THAT QTE MAFIA UNQTE IN THE U.S. HAD WANTED TO PLACE HIM IN CONTACT WITH THE FBI WHEREUPON GARCIA HAD DECLINED SO AS NOT TO PREJUDICE HIS ILLEGAL U.S. RESIDENCE.

3. GARCIA DID NOT SHOW BOTERO ANY IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT, SO FOR ALL BOTERO KNOWS, GARCIA MIGHT NOT EVEN BE HIS REAL NAME. HE DID AGREE TO COME BACK TO SEE COL. BOTERO IN 15 DAYS TIME (APPROX OCTOBER 2) AND TO KEEP IN TOUCH. (COLOMBIAN CONSUL IN BARCELONA TOLD BOTERO GARCIA HAD BEEN HANGING AROUND THE BARCELONA CONSULATE WAITING ROOM FOR SEVERAL DAYS.) HE, HOWEVER, AT SOME POINT LEFT U.S. AND WAS BACK IN COLOMBIA AT ONE POINT AND ALSO CAME BACK TO SPAIN. GARCIA TOLD BOTERO HE HAD RECENTLY WORKED IN BARS AND WITH PROSTITUTION.

4. EMBASSY DEA OFFICE HAS FOUND A REFERENCE UNDER FILE SZC-2-002 TO ONE MARIA GARCIA, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS BELIEVED TO RESIDE IN CULIACAN, MEXICO, AND IS BELIEVED TO BE THE SON OF A WELL-KNOWN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT THIS IS SAME INDIVIDUAL. EATON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID06600
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750329-0604
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750923/aaaaatwc.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 6594
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE THREAT TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ' LIFE
TAGS: PFOR, CO, SP, US, (LOPEZ MICHELSEN, ALFONSO)
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006